

REMARKS**Status of Claims:**

Claims 10-23 and 29-31 are now in the application. Claims 10 and 29-31 have been amended for purposes of clarification and to address the objections to these claims.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st Paragraph:

Claims 10-23 and 29-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st Paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specifications in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner objected to the recitation " $\mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$." Claims 10 and 29-31 are hereby amended to recite " mA/cm^2 " in keeping with the examples in the specification.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph:

Claims 17, 23, and 30-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claim 17 was objected to for reciting "the recess has" in line 1. Claim 17 is hereby amended to recite "the recesses have."

Claim 23 was objected to for reciting "plating" instead of "electroplating." Appropriate amendment is hereby made.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

Claims 10-14, 16, 18-20, and 29-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gilton (5,151,168) in view of Woo (6,440,289).

Claims 10-14, 16-20, and 29-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen (WO 99/47731) in view of Landau (6,261,433).

The present invention relates to a method of plating copper directly onto a barrier layer. Each of Woo, Chen, and Landau relate to plating copper onto a seed layer.

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication including any extension fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0185.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

John A. Evans

Registration No.: 44,100

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800

Washington, DC 20036-3425

(202) 331-7111

(202) 293-6229 (Fax)

Attorneys for Applicant

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